

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) Government of India, Department of Electronics have set up seven Software Technology Parks (STPs) at Pune, Bangalore, Bhubaneswar, Hyderabad, Thiruvananthapuram, Gandhinagar and Noida.

(b) and (c). Yes, Sir. It has been decided to entrust the management of some of these STPs to public sector undertakings/societies under the administrative control of the Department of Electronics in view of the following reasons:

- (i) making optimum use of the existing infrastructure and manpower available within the existing organisations of the Department of Electronics;
- (ii) utilising the technical and marketing skills available within these organisations; and

- (iii) effecting maximum economies in operations due to financial constraints.

Text Book Presses

5502. DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Government Text Book Presses are functioning in the country and the capacity and locations thereof, particularly the Government Text Book Press at Bhubaneswar, Orissa;

(b) whether the Government Text Book Press at Bhubaneswar is running under capacity; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken/proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRIM. ARUNACHALAM): (a) Three Govt. of India Text Book Presses are functioning in the country as per details given below:-

<i>S.No.</i>	<i>Name of Press/Location</i>	<i>Assessed Annual Capacity (No. of Impressions)</i>
1.	Govt. of India Text Book Press Bhubaneswar, Orissa.	5,78,65,300
2.	Govt. of India Text Book Press, Chandigarh.	10,07,91,800
3.	Govt. of India Text Book Press, Mysore.	9,28,08,850

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Steps have been taken to ensure dequate supply of paper, expeditious repair

of machinery as and when defect take place, besides sanctioning few posts of operatives. Orissa Electricity Board has been requested to treat the Press as priority installation and

exempt it from various restrictions like load-shedding etc., and maintain proper voltage level.

Limiting Losses and Subsidies at Chemicals & Fertilizers and Pesticides

5503. DR. R. MALLU: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are considering to limit losses and subsidies on chemical fertilizers and pesticides;

(b) if so, the details of losses and subsidies direct and indirect thereon, during the last three years;

(c) whether the Government are aware of the development and use of wide-range of non-chemical alternatives to these pesticides which are now being widely used in USA; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the steps proposed to be taken to adopt the latest technology in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. CHINTA MOHAN): (a) and (b). Government is concerned about mounting subsidy bill. The subsidy paid on chemical fertilizers, including the loss (under recovery) suffered on sale of imported fertilizers at statutorily notified prices during the years 1988-89, 1989-90 and 1990-91 was Rs. 3200.70 crores, Rs. 4542.10 crores and Rs. 4389.06 crores, respectively.

As regards pesticides, the subsidy extended by the Central Government to various States/Union Territories for implementing a scheme during the last three years is given below:

<i>Year</i>	<i>Administrative approval accorded (Rs. in lakhs)</i>	<i>Amount released (Rs. in lakhs)</i>
1988-89	414	200
1989-90	298	420
1990-91	150	135
TOTAL :	862	755

(c) and (d). Yes, Sir. Use of non-chemical fertilizers and pesticides is evoking keen interest in many countries of the world. To reduce consumption of chemical fertilizers, the use of bio-fertilizers is being encouraged through a Central sector scheme. Adoption of integrated pest management based on cultural practices, biological and mechanical interventions and minimum use of chemical

pesticides is being accorded high priority.

[*Translation*]

Assistance for Earthquake affected areas of U.P.

5504. SHRISURENDRA PAL PATHAK: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state: